



Editor: Melanie Dietzel, 479-442-8600

Pease send upcoming events to this email address:

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OMNI CENTER---UPCOMING EVENTS, MEETINGS and CALENDAR

SPECIAL MESSAGES

MEMBERSHIP MEETING JANUARY 31 ADDRESSES CRITICAL ISSUES

Put the annual Membership Meeting on your calendar for the last day of January, please, 6:00 pm at United Campus Ministries, 902 W. Maple. Dinner this year is luscious lasagna and other tasty things. I heard fudge brownies mentioned. We'd like to try having child care for young families for the first time with a very small child-care fee, and see how it goes. If you're interested, please reply so we can give you more information, and gauge the number of workers we need.

There's a lot going on in the world, as usual, and Omni people are in the thick of it. There are four great workshops scheduled:

- **CONNECTING ACROSS CULTURES**

The Peace Leaders Council will hold a panel of Omni friends from different ethnic backgrounds who will talk about how peace workers can reach out more effectively to people of different culture groups.

- **100-YEAR PLAN FOR WORLD PEACE**

Richard Tiffany begins a discussion series on a topic we should have started on 100 years ago. But there's no use waiting any longer. It's a complex, fascinating subject, and you probably have ideas about it. If you're interested, come, find out more.

- **A NEW ECONOMY: THE POTENTIALS OF A LOCAL CURRENCY**

Shelley Buonaiuto, Tom Markham and Joe Bender discuss an option often used during times of recession to buffer communities from economic turmoil. Next May, Paul Glover, founder of Ithaca Hours local currency, will visit Fayetteville to talk about this grass roots economic system. You can get the early scoop.

- **THE GREEN ECONOMY: YOU HAVE THE POWER**

Carbon Caps Task Force - What's happening in Arkansas about the potentials for a green economy? What's happening in other parts of the country? A lot is bubbling just below the surface. Join this group for inspiration and information about things that may be manifesting soon.

Gladys Tiffany

Omni Center for Peace, Justice and Ecology

Fayetteville, Arkansas USA

479-973-9049 -- gladystiffany@yahoo.com

ALTERNATIVES DO EXIST IN GAZA

As an organization dedicated to support for the principles of nonviolence, Omni Center for Peace, Justice and Ecology is dismayed at the violence that continues to erupt from both sides of the ongoing tragedy in Gaza. We are saddened by the history that has dragged the Palestinians and Israelis into the 21st century in such a bloody manner.

We emphasize our conviction that there are no military solutions to this conflict. Until good-faith negotiations are matched on both sides with sincere desire to live in harmony, Israelis and Palestinians will never find a way to peace.

Omni Center expresses sympathy both for Palestinian people trapped in desperate circumstances, too often outside their control, and for Israelis trapped in a set of policies that can never give them security or peace. Actions on both sides have made this appear to be an irreconcilable conflict.

We support approaches that involve diplomatic negotiations in a new and mutually respectful way. The current imbalance is not in keeping with international law or good moral principles. Omni Center adds its voice to those around the world calling on Israel to cease the offensive, withdraw from the Gaza Strip, and engage in serious negotiations leading to an end to the embargo. We also request that our Senators Blanche Lincoln and Mark Pryor, and our Representative John Boozman, join us in calling for an end to this humanitarian catastrophe.

The world is watching for a response that reflects traditional American values for justice and fairness. Omni Center shares these values. It's time for the United States to once again join the world community as an honorable partner. Our nation cannot stand by as this injustice unfolds.

OMNI MONTH IN REVIEW

Look for Moderator Claire Detels and a panel of guests on the air live Wednesday, January 28. Check the January 25 Omni Newsletter for program details.

OMNI CENTER CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

--Thursday, January 15, 5:30p.m. Potluck, 6:00p.m. - Omni Steering Committee Meeting, Deep End of United Campus Ministries, 902 W. Maple, Fayetteville, AR

--Sunday, January 18, 6:30P.M. HOWL: Women's Open Mic at Nightbird Books, Old Mill Building, Corner of School and 6th Streets, Fayetteville - HOWL happens the third Sunday of each month at Nightbird Bookstore. At HOWL, women are invited to read poems (their own or woman writer's), share short prose or sing at an open mic forum hosted by Mendy Knott. It's a great place to "try out" new work, share your masterpieces, or read for the very first time. So come read, sing or play your work to a really receptive audience. Men and women are warmly invited to attend this celebration of women's words.

Nightbird Books is located in the old mill buildings at the corner of School. Their phone number is 443-2080. Reading starts at 6:30 but come early to sign up to read, browse the books and enjoy the good company. For HOWL questions or to join our mailing list, email howl@herwords.org. HOWL is collaboration between Herwords and the Omni Center, supported Nightbird Books in Fayetteville, AR.

--Monday, January 19, Gather at Walton Arts Center Parking Lot, 11:15 a.m., - Presentation of City Award Program to honor a city employee who exhibits the spirit and legacy of King. This will be followed by a march from the parking lot to the Fulbright Peace Fountain at the University of Arkansas, and from there to the Arkansas Union Connections Lounge, where a noon vigil will be held to honor King. The vigil is sponsored by the university's Black Students Association and the Associated Student Government. In the event of inclement weather, the award program and march will be held at the Connections Lounge.

--Tuesday, January 20, 12 noon, Washington, D.C., The swearing in of the 44th President of the United States Barack Obama (The ceremony begins at 11:30a.m. ET)

--Sunday, January 25, 7:00p.m., Video Underground, United Campus Ministries Chapel, 902 W. Maple, Fayetteville -The Omni Center shows a series of free movies every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month (unless noted otherwise) Admission is free but donations are appreciated.

For more information, contact Gerald Sloan at 575-6302 or gsloan@uark.edu

To see the schedule for the Video Underground film series,

go to <http://omni-vu-films.blogspot.com/>

<http://omni-vu-films.blogspot.com/>

WHAT'S GOING ON?---CURRENT EVENTS and INFORMATION LOCALLY: CITY, COUNTY, AND STATE

(New Items will have Green Heading)

INTERFAITH HARMONY DAY MANY SONGS/ONE SYMPHONY

Sunday, January 18, 2009

2 - 5:00 pm

Parish Hall

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

224 N. East St., Fayetteville

MUSIC, FOOD, ART,

STORYTELLING, DRAMA, DISCUSSION

NOT PREACHING, DEBATING, OR RECRUITING

Tables gaily decorated by many faith communities with art, information, sacred items, and food. A stage with performances of music, dances, skits, poetry and a panel discussion.

A family-friendly afternoon of connection and fun.

.FREE ADMISSION

Sponsored by

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fayetteville

Participants Include Members of the Following Faith Communities

Baha'i

Buddhist

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Episcopalian

First Christian Church

Society of Friends (Quaker)

St. James Methodist

Muslim

Unitarian Universalists

Unity

The afternoon program will include

(Combined Choir from First Christian Church and Unitarian Universalist Fellowship)

Faiths Face-to-Face Panel Discussion

Harmonia - multicultural songs

St. James Methodist Youth Choir

Unity Divine Intervention Choir

DONNA STJERNA ARTSONG CONCERT AND ART SHOW

HOWDY FRIENDS!!!!!!

We are so excited to be doing our second ARTSONG Concert and Art Show at Karen Kimrey's. SATURDAY JANUARY 24th at 7:00 pm. The show is a little over one hour only with social hour following. Last year was an amazing experience for us. For those of you who didn't attend here is a short synopsis!

For years I (Donna from Still on the Hill) have been creating collage pieces to go with some of my songs. Usually they are my 'orphan children' songs (very personal ones that don't make it into the Still on the Hill roster). It seems that if I make an art piece to go with the song then it is more HOLISTIC...I can understand more fully the thought I am trying to convey, as I am such a visual person.

I LOVE the opportunity to share these unsung songs and the pieces that go with them and then at the same time PASS THEM ON so I have room in my tiny studio to MAKE MORE!!!

Last year we had a SILENT AUCTION for the collages and concert and all the money donated for the evening went to 7 Hills Homeless Shelter.

This year I want donations from the evening to help a young person with psychosis and addiction...namely my nephew, Marshall. My little sister and her husband have been struggling for 6 years with his mental illness/drug induced...and he is now in a very expensive treatment center and doing well (a 6 month program). They have gone into debt because they couldn't get any 'good' help from the 'system' so this is our way of helping them out.

I have a 3 songs and pieces in the exhibit that are about Marshall's challenge and were therapy for me during the past year and I look forward to 'getting them out'. Jori Costello will be our lovely VANITY WHITE again this year. She will place each piece on an easel off to our left as we perform it.

SPACE IS VERY LIMITED...please call or email for a reservations. BYOB (and a snack/finger food to share if you are so inclined) There is no cover charge just a basket in which you can make a offering for the evening concert. There is NO MINIMUM bid for any art piece! ANYTHING GOES...last year pieces went from \$5 to \$200!!!!

We will be stretching out musically and doing some things that challenge us. We will be joined by the AMAZING Darlene on several numbers and possibly some other surprise guests yet to be named. HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US!!!!!!!

RSVP

karenkimrey@cox.net

MESSAGE FROM ARKANSAS PUBLIC POLICY PANEL AND CITIZENS FIRST

(The Citizens First Congress is a grassroots coalition of over 40 community groups from across Arkansas that works on progressive reform at the Arkansas Legislature. Omni is part of this coalition)

Happy New Year! 2008 was one of our most successful years -- Thank You!

We will be live-webcasting the Governor's opening State-of-the-State speech on Monday from the Congress' website: www.CitizensFirst.org This year we will provide webcast video of select committee meetings each day from the legislature to help you stay informed from where ever you are.

Help us welcome two new members to our staff: Patty Barker and Ana Phakhin. We continue to be blessed and humbled by the passion and talent of people working and volunteering with us.

Patty Barker is our new Policy Director and will coordinate the Panel's policy campaigns, serve as the Citizens First Congress' lobbyist during legislative sessions, and work to strengthen the Congress and our member groups capacity to monitor and impact policy at the local and state levels. She is a lawyer, former legislative research staff, and former staff to US Senator Bumpers. She is a proud mom of 4 and has been active in public school issues with the PTA and Public Education Foundation. She is the daughter of Bill Bowen and has been involved in progressive politics all her life.

Ana Phakhin is our new Education and Economic Organizer! She will strengthen community groups working on education reform and economic issues. She grew up in Springdale, graduated from Wellesley College and returned to Arkansas where she has worked for several social service and education related groups including the Hispanic Women's Organization of Arkansas and UALR Children International. Ana has traveled the world, teaching in Spain and the Czech Republic, and speaks English, Spanish, Laos, and Thai.

We are still seeking interns for the coming legislative session. We have one full-time, paid internship available, and several part-time volunteer ones. Find more information at <http://arpanel.org/content/index.php/Job-Opportunities/>

TASK FORCE: HIV FUNDS IMPERATIVE

BY CHARLIE FRAGO

Posted on Tuesday, December 2, 2008

URL: <http://www.nwanews.com/adg/News/245283/>

A gubernatorial task force announced Monday that it will ask the Legislature for \$ 3 million over the next two years to combat the spread of HIV / AIDS in Arkansas.

The Arkansas HIV / AIDS Minority Task Force released its final report recommending that the money be spent to create 15 sites for testing and counseling services in black, Hispanic and Marshallese communities around the

state, a statewide campaign to heighten awareness among those groups and to hire staff to supervise the programs. To read the complete article, visit www.nwanews.com/adg/News/245283/

FNHA ANNUAL MEETING ON JANUARY 25 TO FOCUS ON WATER ISSUES

"Troubled Water: Preserving and Restoring Arkansas' Most Valuable Resource" will be the program theme for the Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association's annual meeting:

2:00 pm on January 25, 2009, Walker meeting room of the Fayetteville Public Library.

Two leading experts on water issues in Arkansas, Martin Maner and Marty Matlock, will discuss Arkansas' persistent water concerns and will talk about what they are doing and what we, as citizens, can do to protect the quality of our water and to help restore water quality where it has deteriorated.

ORGANIC GARDENING WORKSHOP

Another growing season is almost here! Spend time with a professional and improve your gardening skills.

This workshop is for people who are dedicated to growing their food in their own backyard or with the idea of starting a small-scale farm. This workshop is also for those considering becoming a trainee at the farm during the 2009 season. It will include:

- a visual presentation of the farm's organic/no-till methods.
- a spreadsheet-driven explanation of our plan your gardening season.
- a "Question and Answer" session.

The \$35 fee (per household) includes a complete crop plan for 2009.

We offer you 2 alternative dates/locations:

Saturday January 31st, 10am-noon, at the Fayetteville Public Library (Board Room).

Saturday February 7th, 10am-noon, at Patrice & Karen Gross' home, in Eureka Springs. (Directions will be emailed.)

To reserve a spot, reply to this email with a selected date/location. For further information, please visit our farm website.

FOSTER CARE IN ARKANSAS

The League of Women Voters of Washington County will present a program on Foster Care in Arkansas to help people understand the serious problems facing foster child placement and Arkansas's social responsibilities. A panel will share information at the **Fayetteville Public Library's Walker Room on February 18 from 6:00-7:30 pm.**

Featured speakers are Keith Vire, CEO of Arkansas Support Network, Inc.; Pat Page, former Director of the Division of Children and Family in the Department of Human Services; Laura Kellams NW Arkansas director of Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families; and Lynn Donald Carver Program Director for the Arkansas Support Network.

For additional information contact Marge Zinke, Program Chairman, 443-3682.

Submitted by Dick Bennett

ACLU ASKS COURT TO STRIKE DOWN ARKANSAS PARENTING BAN OVER A DOZEN FAMILIES AFFECTED BY ACT 1 STEP FORWARD TO FILE LAWSUIT

LITTLE ROCK- The American Civil Liberties Union today filed a lawsuit seeking to strike down a new law that bans any unmarried person who lives with a partner from serving as an adoptive or foster parent in the state of Arkansas.

At a press conference at the Arkansas State Capitol this morning, several of the plaintiffs described how Act 1, which is set to go into effect on January 1, impacts their families and why they decided to be part of the case.

Stephanie Huffman, who already adopted one child from the state in 2004, was one of the plaintiffs who spoke at today's press conference. Huffman and her partner of 10 years, Wendy Rickman, want to adopt another child or a pair of siblings through the Department of Children and Family Services, but now can't because of Act 1. "The state already knows we're good enough parents that they placed one child with us before Act 1 passed," said Huffman. "Who knows how many children are now cut off by this law from loving homes?"

In the lawsuit filed today, the ACLU argues that Act 1 violates the federal and state constitutional rights to equal protection and due process. Participating in the case are 29 adults and children from over a dozen different

families, including a grandmother who lives with her same-sex partner of nine years and is the only relative able and willing to adopt her grandchild who is now in Arkansas state care, several married heterosexual couples who have relatives or friends disqualified by Act 1 who they want to adopt their children if they die, and a heterosexual woman who wants to be a foster or adoptive parent but can't because she lives with her partner of five years. The complaint was filed this morning in Pulaski County Circuit Court.

"Ever since the election, we've been hearing from all corners of the state from dozens of families who are panicking about how Act 1 impacts them," said Rita Sklar, Executive Director of the ACLU of Arkansas. "This law hurts families and children in many ways - it takes away parents' right to decide for themselves who will adopt their children if they die, it denies the many children in Arkansas state care a chance at the largest possible pool of potential foster and adoptive homes, and denies couples who are living together but unmarried the chance to provide loving homes to children who desperately need them."

For a complete list of all the plaintiff families and more detailed profiles, please visit <http://www.aclu.org/lgbt/parenting/38199res20081230.html>

STORIES OF WAR

Professor Tom Palaima, University of Texas (Department of Classics), will give a public lecture on Thursday, February 19, at 7:00 pm in Giffels Auditorium, Sponsored by Phi Beta Kappa and the U of A Classical Studies Program. Contact Prof. Daniel Levine.

"Stories of War from Homer to Jesse Odom and Beyond"

Summary:

War stories are as old as war. Soldiers and civilians have always had to tell stories about war. Here we shall examine the many reasons these stories are told and why they are important for the well-being of individuals and whole societies. We shall also consider the related question of how the experience of war is socialized among soldiers and among civilian populations. The ultimate questions are: Why is it important that citizens know about war and how much are the prevailing powers at different times and in different societies willing to have their citizens know?

PEACE BOOKS AT DICKSON STREET BOOKS

Charles and Don still have a PEACE section in their store, though it is still on the floor! Let them know there are readers who want to read books about how to bring peace to the world, by dropping by for one and talking with them about the books. Here are two I picked up the other night (that are now part of OMNI's Library): Tolstoy and Gandhi: A Biography and The Future of Peace: On the Front Lines with the World's Great Peacemakers.

Submitted by Dick Bennett

NEW ADDITIONS TO OMNI LIBRARY

Two recent additions to the Omni center library are:

The Rise of American Air Power: The Creation of Armageddon by Michael Sherry, *Overthrow: America's Century of Regime Change from Hawaii to Iraq* by Stephen Kinzer (author of *All the Shah's Men*).

OMNI's collection on US imperialism and militarism is impressive. We need more space. Also, seek out our collection at UA's Mullins Library (subject headings: victims, nonviolence, whistleblowers, and investigative reporters).

OMNI'S UA MULLINS LIBRARY COLLECTION

You can go online to find a list of items in the Omni Center Collection purchased through our endowment and recommended for reading by Omni Center Co-founder Dick Bennett. Visit the InfoLinks Library Catalog home page: <http://library.uark.edu/> -- click on "Featured Collections." In the second paragraph, click on subject heading "Nonviolent Peacemaking and Victims of Violence and Wars."

Remember that you can sort the results by relevance, date, or title. You can also get to this list by searching InfoLinks with the subject heading "Nonviolent Peacemaking and Victims of Violence and Wars."

Submitted by Dick Bennett

FAYETTEVILLE GODDESS FESTIVAL IN MARCH 2009

The theme is Goddesses, Angels and Amazons. They are accepting proposals for workshop, performance and art! Visit www.goddessfestival.com for information.

ERA (EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT) TO BE RE-INTRODUCED FOR RATIFICATION

A Message from Berta Seitz, ERAkansas Coordinator

The ERA(Equal Rights Amendment) will again be introduced in the Arkansas Legislature for ratification. This will be the third time in the last three sessions and I am working, hoping and praying that this will be the time it passes. ERArkansas is a coalition of 12 groups including Arkansas AAUW and growing that supports ratification. To achieve ratification we must actively work in contacting our state representatives and senators as well as lobbying them in person on some occasions. I am asking those of you who would be willing to contact your representatives and senators by email or phone and those willing to make contacts in person to send me your names so that I may add you to the ACTION TEAM. You will receive notice of what is occurring and what needs to be done.

72 percent of Arkansans believe that women should have equality in the Constitution according to the results of the 2007 Arkansas Poll. 96 percent of American adults believe that men and women should have equal rights and 88 percent believe those rights should be guaranteed to them by the Constitution according to a survey conducted for the ERA Campaign Network. 72 percent of Americans mistakenly believe that the U.S. Constitution already specifies that male and female citizens are entitled to equal rights. Women received a huge setback in equality, equal pay for equal work, by the split decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in the Ledbetter decision.

We can make this happen! Arkansas can be a shining light, ratify the ERA and help lead other states in getting ratification. Please commit to action. Please send me your names. You will be provided info and told exactly what is needed.

Many thanks!

Berta Seitz

ERArkansas Coordinator

RECRUITER ABUSE HELP HOTLINE

The National Youth and Militarism Recruiter Abuse Hotline: 1-877-688-6881. Started by the AFSC.

RESISTING MILITARIZING OF OUR SCHOOLS

"DMZ: A Guide to Taking Your School Back from the Military." To order: www.warresisters.org or email wrl@warresisters.org, or www.warresisters.org/dmz

MOVING FORWARD TOWARD A PERMANENT HOME

OMNI seeks the donation of a lot or acreage on which to build a new home. Contact Richard Tiffany at (479) 973-9049 if you are interested.

OMNI LOOKING FOR A PC

OMNI Center is in need of a relatively new PC or Laptop. If you have a computer that you'd like to donate, or know where we can find a good bargain, please contact Gladys Tiffany gladystiffany@yahoo.com or 973-9049

WHAT'S GOING ON?—NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

NEW ITEMS IN GREEN

INVITATION FOR NOMINATIONS: INTERNATIONAL BREMEN PEACE AWARD 2009

Crossing Boundaries/Breaking Vicious Circles

In November 2009 the "Threshold" Foundation will reward for the fourth time the Bremen Peace Award for exemplary contribution to justice, peace, and integrity of the creation.

With this award we honour people and organisations that set an example in their activity by contributing to reconciliation, human rights, overcoming of racism, to the preservation of creation as well as to intercultural and inter-religious understanding.

In each of three categories one person or organisation will be selected to receive the award during a public ceremony at the Bremen Town Hall. The award will be accompanied by the money prize at the rate of 15,000 euros, with 5000 euros to each of three categories. Moreover, other highly relevant projects out of all the suggestions will be presented in the special award brochure in English and in German. Thereby, we seek to draw public attention to remarkable people's achievements worldwide.

The award brochures are available in the Internet at www.dieschwelle.de

In addition the brochures of 2005 and 2007 can be ordered for free from stiftung@dieschwelle.de

- **Award for "the unknown peace worker" - (category A)**

This category targets at finding out less conspicuous projects or dedicated individuals contributing to peace, justice and integrity of the creation, with a special emphasis on unconventional initiatives at the grassroots level of contributing to peace.

- **Award for exemplary initiatives - (category B)**

In this category we look for individual initiatives or organization's activities that contributed in a very exemplary manner to the goals of the "Threshold" Foundation stipulated by the peace award.

- **Award for public action for justice, peace and integrity of creation - (category C)**

This category honours individuals who contribute constantly and courageously to peace and justice within the public realm. We think not only of journalists and scientists here, but also of politicians and artists.

Self-nominations are possible in category A, but excluded from categories B and C.

Any suggestions must contain following information:

- * The name of the suggested person/initiative, along with email address (alternatively a postal address), website (if available) and, in case of organisations, the name of the contact person.

- * A brief description of the suggesting organization.

- * Reasons for nomination.

- * Any information on previously received awards.

- * In addition, in case of self-nomination in category A: two external referees (with names and email addresses), whom the "Threshold" Foundation could contact for further information if necessary.

A suggestion should not exceed 3 pages. It should be sent via email, as far as possible, in German or in English, by February 15, 2009 to: Petra.Titze@dieschwelle.de

or: Petra Titze, Stiftung die schwelle, Wachmannstr. 79, D-28209, Bremen.

For further information please contact Petra Titze, via: Petra.Titze@dieschwelle.de or via phone: + 49 (0) 421-3032-577.

Submitted by Dick Bennett

The Peace Support Network is sponsoring a peace video collection and contest on YouTube. For information, please see - <http://www.peacesupportnetwork.org/videos.cfm> You don't need to be a professional, simply create a video and submit it. You or your group could win \$1000 US. In fact, you can create as many videos as you like and submit them all! Get a group of friends together and create a peace video. Share your vision of peace with the world!

Submitted by Dick Bennett

SEND YOUR THOUGHTS AND IDEAS TO THE PRESIDENT ELECT

We have all had a few ideas about how the government can be reformed. Obama is asking for us to vote on citizen generated ideas such as this one:

http://www.change.org/ideas/view/reform_and_streamline_the_defense_department_and_intelligence_community

While there are literally thousands of ways in which we can reform the system, I personally feel that we must start with the biggest money and life waster-the Defense Department and for-profit arms dealers. Kindly review this modest proposal and give it a vote-and of course leave your own ideas at the [change.org](http://www.change.org) website.

Submitted by Dick Bennett

STOP, LOOK AND LISTEN, and READ: MEDIA

RESISTING THE FASCIST SHIFT

Naomi Wolf's new book, *Give Me Liberty: A Handbook for American Revolutionaries*, follows up her earlier book, *The End of America* (i.e. of its democracy), that described the several main aspects of the US "fascist shift." *Give Me Liberty* sets forth the resistance. For example, her opening chapters on the Declaration of Independence, Fake Patriotism, and Fake Democracy stir the heart. Part II's US "core values" provokes thought. Part III is the guide to action packed with suggestions; for example, a succinct guide to fundraising pp. 286-292. This book might be sub-sub-titled *A Guide for Obama*.

submitted by Dick Bennett

QUAKER ACTION

Published by the American Friends Service Committee, the Fall issue of their newsletter includes articles on "Five Principles for a New Approach to U.S. Foreign Policy" and the "STOPMAX Conference" about ending isolation and torture in U.S. prisons.

submitted by Dick Bennett

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE FOR CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS AVAILABLE

Posted by: "Austin Moran" mis@nysar.com austinmoran.com, From the VFP Digest.

If you know someone who has enlisted in the military or who is already in the military and has developed convictions of a religious conscientious objector, then a new book is now available containing the step-by-step procedure regarding release from the military.

A free copy of the book to down load is available on the following link:

<http://www.peacehost.net/christianCO/ProceduresBook5.pdf>

Also a hard copy of the book can be purchased from the internet book seller Lulu:

<http://www.lulu.com/content/4682550>

submitted by Dick Bennett

GREEN FOR ALL WEBSITE AND FEBRUARY CONFERENCE

Register today for the 2009 Good Jobs, Green Jobs National Conference, February 4 - 6, 2009, in Washington, D.C. greenforall.org

GREAT RESEARCH SOURCE

FOR ANTI-WAR,

CIVIL LIBERTIES/RIGHTS ADVOCATES

THE NATION MAGAZINE OFFERS ALL PAST CONTENTS FREE TO SUBSCRIBERS

A subscription now includes every article, editorial, and review back to 1865.

Submitted by Dick Bennett

HELP BOOK PUBLISHERS AND NEWSPAPERS

Publishing houses and newspapers across the country are cutting back in order to stay in business. The Morning News shrunk its size from 6 to 5 columns last month. Publishers are keen on books that can maximize profit--sex, salvation, sadism.

Many publishers remain, however, to provide diverse books that inspire the intellectual spirit and promote social change. Some of those publishers are The New Press, South End Press, Common Courage Press, Seven Stories, and Beacon. Clarity Press just now published *American Wars, Illusions and Realities*; Perseus published *We Who Dared to Say No to War*. If you buy books, look at their offerings, as well as to magazines that give access to independent minds: we won't have them if you don't subscribe to them.

Submitted by Dick Bennett

OMNI EVENTS POSTED ON FLCKR.COM

Thanks to all video folks who send images of Omni events to:

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/53408817@N00/pool/>

LOCAL CONNECTIONS

Email your Public Service Announcements 2 weeks in advance to KUAF radio's Pete Hartman at phartma@uark.edu.

PSAs should be about 15 seconds in length.

Submitted by Chris Delacruz

Link Carries Interactive Calendar of Events in Northwest Arkansas—

<http://northwestarkansasevents.blogspot.com/>

- Fayetteville Society of Friends (a.k.a. the Quaker...
- Northwest Arkansas Sustainability Center
- Northwest Arkansas Buddhists
- Omni Center for Peace, Justice and Ecology
- Interfaith and Astronomical
- Combined Northwest Arkansas Event Calendar

Original and gathered articles from Dick Bennett are at <http://jamesrichardbennett.blogspot.com/>

Mike Tramill has an email network (list) on political issues, including the latest developments on possible war or invasion with Iran. You may contact Mike at wheeler65@gmail.com if you want to be on the list.

Richard Drake continues his Fayetteville blog, street jazz, at <http://www.arktmes.com/blogs/streetjazz/>

Fayetteville Freethinkers website/forums can be found at <http://fayfreethinkers.com/forums/>

From Sidney Burris:

Modern & Contemporary Poetry: www.readwrite.typepad.com/poetry

Mindspace: www.readwrite.typepad.com/meditation

Tibetspace: www.readwrite.typepad.com/artibet

Institute website: www.artibet.com

From Leigh Wilkerson - Larrapin Garden blog at <http://larrapin.blogspot.com>

OMNI/COMMUNITY ACCESS TELEVISION (C.A.T.) CONNECTIONS

www.catfayetteville.com

OMNI Month In Review:

Omni Month in Review with Moderator Claire Detels repeats of November airing can be watched on Sundays at 1:00p.m

Democracy NOW! Schedule:

Monday - Friday	7:00a.m.	Democracy NOW!
Tuesdays, 1/13, 1/20	6:00p.m.	Democracy NOW!
Thursdays 1/15, 1/22	6:00p.m.	Democracy NOW!
Friday 1/16, 1/23	6:00p.m.	Democracy NOW!
Saturday 1/17	3:00a.m.	Democracy NOW!
Sunday 1/18, 1/25	6:00p.m.	Democracy NOW!

Free Speech TV (FSTV) sponsored by Omni - 3:00a.m. - 9:00a.m. - FSTV continues its cutting edge challenges, pushing us to think. www.freespeechtv.com Omni Center is pleased to provide FSTV to our local Community Access Television (**NOTICE FROM FREE SPEECH TV:** Free Speech TV will be conducting it's '09 Winter Pledge Drive from Monday January 26th through February 15th. Due to the problems we had during our '08 Fall Drive with time-shifting Democracy Now! repeats, we are reversing that decision - For the '09 Winter pledge drive (and future drives), The regular Democracy Now! live program at 8a ET, as well as the 59 minute repeats of DN! will not contain fundraising appeals.)

FSTV broadcast schedule:

3:00 am Daily

Amy Goodman Online - You can listen/watch previous Democracy Now programs by internet streaming from Democracy Now website <http://democracynow.org> Previous programs (going back many years) are archived there. You can watch the current program (after they post it about noon) by going to <http://democracynow.org/streampage.pl>

Other Programs of Interest:

Monday, 1/12/2009

1:30 am Arkansas' Challenge for Land Conservation
3:00 pm Legal Aid of Arkansas, LITC General Info.
4:00 pm Need to Know: Sustainable Development
6:00 pm Peace Train 1610 AM

Tuesday, 1/13/2009

2:00 pm Need to Know: Sustainable Development
9:00 pm Arkansas' Challenge for Land Conservation
10:30 pm Legal Aid of Arkansas, LITC General Info.

Wednesday, 1/14/2009

2:30 am Legal Aid of Arkansas, LITC General Info.
9:00 am Arkansas' Challenge for Land Conservation
9:00 pm Exorcism 1999: Sweatshop Issues

Thursday, 1/15/2009

1:00 am Arkansas' Challenge for Land Conservation
12:00 pm Exorcism 1999: Sweatshop Issues
2:00 pm Legal Aid of Arkansas, LITC General Info.
4:00 pm Peace Train 1610 AM
8:00 pm Need to Know: Sustainable Development

Friday, 1/16/2009

8:30 pm Exorcism 1999: Sweatshop Issues
10:00 pm Peace Train 1610 AM

Saturday, 1/17/2009

Omni Book Samplers:

Book Samplers give a five minute book report or read a five minute excerpt from a book. If you like to read and would like to share and encourage others to read books that you find informative and interesting, please volunteer to be a Book Sampler. Contact: Dick Bennett jbennet@uark.edu

Short Takes: Taping at C.A.T.

Taping Schedule:

Every Monday night, from 5:00p.m.-6:00p.m., C.A.T. will be doing Short Takes live. This will be a great opportunity for time sensitive material, live entertainment, or anything else that is expressive.

For the folks who don't want to go on camera live, you can still record your short take from 6:00p.m.-6:30p.m Mondays, and on Tuesdays from 12 noon - 1:30p.m. Both the live and recorded short takes will air the following week as usual. If anyone has any comments or questions, please feel free to contact C.A.T.

Viewing Times: 11:00a.m., 5:00p.m., 11:00p.m.

Omni News and Current Events featured on Short Takes:

Presented by Cliff Hughes, Dick Bennett

Also Good to Watch:

Bill Moyers Journal on PBS, Fridays, 9:00p.m.

<http://www.pbs.org/moyers/journal/index-flash.html>

For More Information about the US/Iran status, you can visit

<http://www.buzzflash.com/search/?>


[Query=iran](#) or BBC at http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/default.stm

CASUALTIES IN IRAQ

The Human Cost of Occupation

Edited by Margaret Griffis :: [Contact](#)

American Military Casualties in Iraq

Date	Total	In Combat
		
American Deaths		
Since war began (3/19/03):	4224	3404
Since "Mission Accomplished" (5/1/03) (the list)	4085	3296
Since Capture of Saddam (12/13/03):	3763	3098
Since Handover (6/29/04):	3366	2771
Since Election (1/31/05):	2786	2508
American Wounded	Official	Estimated
Total Wounded:	30934	Over 100000

Latest Fatality Jan. 10, 2008

[Page last updated 01/11/09 11:49 am EDT](#)

IRAQI CIVILIAN BODY COUNT

and go east. You will be on Hwy 264 which is also West Monroe. The office is in the Puppy Creek Plaza, past the McDonald's on the right. His suite is in the back of the complex to the left.

Ft. Smith office: 479-782-7787; 30 South 6th St. Rm 240, Ft. Smith 72901.

Harrison office: 870-741-6900; 402 N. Walnut, Suite 210, Harrison 72601.

DC address: 1708 Longworth House Office Bldng., Washington, DC 20515; 202-225-4301.

Leslie Parker, appointments secretary: 202-225-4301.

MILESTONES

- January 15 - The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. born in Atlanta, Georgia (1929)**
- January 16 - Sale of alcoholic beverages banned under Eighteenth Amendment (1920)**
Persian Gulf war begins with U.S. bombing of Baghdad (1991)
- January 17 - Native Hawaiians demonstrate against U.S. control of their homeland (1993)**
- January 18 - Nationwide protests, with the largest in New York and San Francisco focus on the impending war in Iraq (2003)**
- January 19 - 59 arrested at Chattanooga, Tennessee civil-rights sit-in (1960)**
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 20 - Iran releases 52 Americans held 444 days (1981)**
- January 21 - Margaret Brent becomes the first American woman to claim the right to vote (1648)**
- Roger Baldwin, father of ACLU born (1884)
President Carter pardons 10,000 Vietnam draft resisters (1977)
- January 22 - United States Supreme court legalizes abortion (1973)**
- January 23 - Charles Curtis of Kansas becomes first Native American U. S. Senator (1907)**
Vietnam peace treaty signed in Paris (1973)
- January 25 - United Mine Workers formed (1890)**